

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 83-84 and 105-106 are pending, with 83 and 105 being the independent claims. Claims 83-84 and 105-106 stand allowed. Claims 85-104 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

I. The Objection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75

In the Office Action at page 2, the Examiner has objected to claims 95-99 and 101-104, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75, as being substantial duplicates of claims 85-89, 97 and 100.

Applicant respectfully traverses the objection. However, in order to expedite the allowance of the present application, claims 85-104 have been cancelled, thus rendering moot this objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)/§ 103(a)

In the Office Action at page 3, the Examiner has rejected claims 85, 87, 89, 90, 92, 94, 95, 97, 98, 100, 101 and 103 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over The Gibco/BRL Catalog (Feb. 1992).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. However, in order to expedite the allowance of the present application, claims 85, 87, 89, 90, 92, 94, 95, 97, 98, 100, 101 and 103 have been cancelled, thus rendering moot this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action at page 4, the Examiner has rejected claims 85, 87, 92, 98 and 95 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Gelfi *et al.*

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. However, in order to expedite the allowance of the present application, claims 85, 87, 92, 98 and 95 have been cancelled, thus rendering moot this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Office Action at pages 5-7, the Examiner has rejected claims 85-88, 92, 93, 95, 96, 98 and 99 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hartley *et al.*

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. However, in order to expedite the allowance of the present application, claims 85-88, 92, 93, 95, 96, 98 and 99 have

been cancelled, thus rendering moot this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action at pages 9 and 10, the Examiner has rejected claims 89, 94, 97 and 100-104 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hartley *et al.* in view of the Gibco/BRL Catalog (1989).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. However, in order to expedite the allowance of the present application, claims 89, 94, 97 and 100-104 have been cancelled, thus rendering moot this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action at page 11, the Examiner has rejected claims 90 and 91 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hartley *et al.* in view of the Stratagene Catalog (1988).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. However, in order to expedite the allowance of the present application, claims 90 and 91 have been cancelled, thus rendering moot this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 83-84 and 105-106 are allowable.

Conclusion

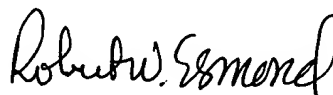
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the

outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Esmond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Esmond" clearly distinguishable.

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Version with markings to show changes made

Claims 85-104 have been cancelled.